and ideas indicate that the author canvassed contemporary students of the field in an effort to bring his contribution strictly up to date.

After a study of the literature, the author selected for citation what he considered best. Many papers describing purely local work and papers that are repetitive have not been included. These may be exemplified by the numerous, but not too important, dialectics emanating from central Europe during the mid-thirties in which were debated the relative value of various criteria for distinguishing geographic races of trees.

In terse style the author summarizes the information available on each topic, citing the publications from which the information was extracted. It is difficult to find a phase of forest tree breeding which has been investigated that is not mentioned. Students can find no better guide to the literature on the subject for the time period covered than this bulletin. It will become a permanent point of reference in the literature of forest tree breeding.

I feel that there will be disappointment, however, on the part of the forester or tree breeder when he has finished perusing this pamphlet, not because of the way it is done but rather because it does not go further into the subject. The condensed treatment prevents the author from expanding the ideas presented and in some places the presentation itself suffers from brevity. Also, a critical comparison and evaluation, by Mr. Richens, of the literature on controversial issues has not been possible in the allotted space.—W. P. Stockwell, In Charge, Institute of Forest Genetics, California Forest and Range Experiment Station.

NOTES AND NEWS

Stipa arida in Nevada. In June of 1940 in Nevada, I collected an unusual *Stipa* growing with the rare *Blepharidachne Kingii* (S. Wats.) Hack. on extremely dry lava beds five miles southwest of Lockes, Nye County, Nevada (lat. 38° 28′ N., long. 115° 52′ W., *Pohl 2073*). Dr. F. J. Hermann of the National Arboretum Herbarium, Beltsville, Maryland, kindly identified the *Stipa* for me as *S. arida* M. E. Jones, a plant hitherto known only from Colorado, Utah and Arizona. The Nevada specimens correspond very closely in spikelet characters to material of the type number (*Jones 5377*) in the United States National Herbarium. They are considerably more mature than the Jones specimen, however, and show certain features of the fruit which are not well exhibited in the latter. The body of the fruit becomes a golden brown at maturity. The awn, while frequently merely somewhat flexuous, may at full maturity develop a definite geniculum about a centimeter above its base. The proximal portion of the awn, below this geniculum, becomes brown in color like the body of the fruit, and is banded with whitish stripes along the edges of the loose

spiral into which it is twisted. The distal portion of the awn is not twisted and is whitish in color.—Richard W. Pohl, Department of Botany, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Viola odorata in California. A violet having deep reddish violet flowers and long, leafy runners was found at an altitude of 5500 feet at Pinecrest, Tuolumne County, California, on February 24, 1945, by Mrs. Anita Hewick and was referred to me by Miss Elizabeth E. Morse of Berkeley, California, to whom it was sent. The plant is *Viola odorata* L., the Fragrant Violet or the English Violet and is a native of the old world where it occurs in England, on the continent of Europe, east in Asia to the Caucasus Mountains, and again in Northern Africa. It is probably the violet often mentioned by that earliest of botanical writers, the Greek philosopher, Theophrastus, who lived some three hundred years before Christ. An early introduction into American gardens, it has long been enjoyed for its color and fragrance. In some of our eastern and western states it has escaped from cultivation and when found away from a dwelling and growing "wild" it is natural to confuse it with our own native violets.

The only native violet with runners growing in the vicinity of Pinecrest is a small white violet (*V. Macloskeyi*). There is, however, a species with violet colored flowers, the Hooked Spur Violet (*V. adunca*) which later in the season has elongated stems, but these stems are not runners.

Viola odorata differs from any of our native North American violets in having a style in which the tip is bent downward like a hook. Also, the stem of the ripened seed pod bends downward and so more safely plants the cream-colored seeds. These characteristics, together with the color and fragrance of the flowers, and the long leafy runners make this violet readily recognizable.

The violets sold today in the florist shops have been made by crossing *Viola odorata* with one of our North American violets, the Meadow or Hooded Blue Violet, *V. papilionacea* (?). The result of this crossing is a bigger violet, but, unfortunately, much of the fragrance is lost.—Viola Brainerd Baird, Berkeley, California.

On March 23, 1946, the California Botanical Society held its first annual dinner meeting since Pearl Harbor at the Hotel Shattuck, Berkeley. Dr. C. Y. Chang, Professor of Botany, University of Peking, spoke on "Botany in War Time China" and told of the need for maintaining the Chinese universities during the war period and of the difficulties encountered. It was necessary to move the universities more than once, the students and faculty walking for as much as a thousand miles to reach the new locations. Furthermore, it was necessary for them to build their own living quarters and laboratories, to get along with very few microscopes and without up-to-date text books. Once during a Japa-

nese bombing attack, the laboratories were destroyed and had to be completely rebuilt. Yet in spite of these many difficulties the classes continued to meet and the faculty, by devising substitute equipment, managed to carry on a research program and give vital scientific information to the government.

The annual meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and affiliated societies will be held this summer from June 17 to 22 at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Dr. Rogers McVaugh, Acting Curator of the National Arboretum Herbarium, Bureau of Plant Industry, Beltsville, Maryland, has accepted the position of Curator of Phanerogams, University Museums, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Dr. Philip A. Munz, now at the Bailey Hortoreum, Ithaca, New York, is returning to California as Botanist at the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Anaheim, a position which has been vacant since Dr. Carl Wolf resigned a year ago to take over the management of extensive citrus holdings. Dr. Munz will assume his duties at the Garden August 1, 1946.